(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Whereas All India Radio has 89 Stations/Centres, Doordarshan has 128 Centres functioning in the disturbed/border areas.

(b) and (c) Whereas All India Radio has 35 projects under implementation. Doordarshan proposes to set up 94 TV Centres in the border areas subject to availability of funds and inter-se priorities.

Foreign Exchange Reserves

2676. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign exchange reserves amounted to US Dollars 23,768 million on November 8, 1996;

(b) if so, what portion of this foreign exchange reserves constitute NRI repatriable bank accounts; and

(c) the appoximate amount held in foreign exchange by NRIs on November 8, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The total outstanding external liability, including accrued interest, under the various non-resident repatriable deposit schemes amounted to US$ 14,598 million at end-September, 1996. These deposits are liabilities of the banking system, while foreign exchange reserves are the liquid canvertible assets of the Reserve Bank of India. The foreign exchange reserves of the RBI are related to the foreign exchange inflows under various heads, such as portfolio investment, foreign direct investment, export receipts, and NRI deposits, as well as outflows such as import payments and debt service payments. Thus, it is not possible to identify the portion of such reserves which constitute deposits under the NRI repatriable bank accounts.

Nomination of Students for Admission in Medical Colleges

2677. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students nominated by Government for admission in Medical Colleges for MBBS, MD, BIMS etc. in Jalandhar during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) what are the names of colleges where these students were nominated alongwith the names of these students;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open a Medical College in the State of Punjab during the year 1996-97; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and if not,

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare have not nominated any student for admission to MBBS, MD, BIMS etc. courses in Jalandhar during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97.

(c) and (d) The Central Govt. have no proposal to open a Medical College in the State of Punjab during the year 1996-97. However, two applications under the Indian Medical Council Act 1956, for opening of new Medical Colleges at Amritsar and Jalandhar have been received.

Districts with High Birth Rate Identified for Strengthening Primary Health Infrastructure

2678. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some districts with high birth rate have been identified in the country for strengthening